

## Message Text

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45

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00 /087 W

----- 097341

R 281220Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8482

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 15243

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, LA, US

SUBJECT: FUTURE OF THE MEKONG COMMITTEE

1. DURING A LUNCHEON GIVEN BY THE SWISS AMBASSADOR JULY 16 THE EXECUTIVE AGENT OF THE MEKONG COMMITTEE, W. J. VAN DER OORD APPARENTLY SEARCHING FOR A FUTURE ROLE FOR HIS ORGANIZATION, URGED COOPERATION BETWEEN THAILAND, VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA TO DEVELOP HYDRO POWER AND FERTILIZER RESOURCES OF THE MEKONG BASIN. HE ARGUED THAT COOPERATION WAS ESSENTIAL TO MEET THE NEEDS OF RAPIDLY GROWING POPULATIONS.

2. UNDERSTANDABLY, MEKONG COMMITTEE BUREAUCRACY WILL CONTINUE

TO SEARCHFOR A MISSION IN LIFE BUT THE BARRIERS TO COOPERATION ARE ALL TOO APPARENT. IT IS DIFFICULT TO ENVISAGE ANY MEANINGFUL PROJECTS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE FOR POLITICAL FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL REASONS. SOME DONORS OBVIOUSLY VIEW THE MEKONG COMMITTEE AS A USEFUL VEHICLE TO CONTINUE THEIR RELATIONS  
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WITH COMMUNIST REGIMES. WE RECOGNIZE SUCH A ROLE MAY EMERGE.

IT IS HOWEVER UNLIKELY THAT THE DUST WILL SETTLE FOR SOME TIME.  
THE DONORS SHOULD ADMIT TO THEMSELVES THAT FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL  
YEARS THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO ACTIVITY OF ANY CONSEQUENCE.

3. WE WOULD THINK A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN DONORS, AT  
A LEVEL ABOVE THE MEKONG COMMITTEE BUREAUCRACY, WOULD BE TIMELY.  
SUCH A CONSULTATION COULD DETERMINE WHAT KIND OF HOLDING ROLE  
THE COMMITTEE CAN USEFULLY PLAY DURING THE UNCERTAIN PERIOD AHEAD.  
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, FERTILIZERS, HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BANGKO15243  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750259-1174  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750714/aaaaamie.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AID  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FUTURE OF THE MEKONG COMMITTEE  
**TAGS:** EAID, EFIN, LA, US, TH, MEKONG COMMITTEE, (VAN DER OORD, W J)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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